TOKYO GAZETTE

A MONTHLY REPORT OF CURRENT POLICIES, OFFICIAL STATEMENTS AND STATISTICS

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AERIAL BOMBARDMENT AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

PUBLICITY BUREAU, NAVY DEPARTMENT

MANY have been the achievements of the air forces of the Imperial Navy in the present conflict with China; aerial bombardment as an effective method of war has been proved to the fullest extent. This success in aerial operations has created wide repercussions throughout the world, calling to question the validity of the Japanese way of employing this new method of war in relation to the law of nations. The voices raised against Japan have invariably been based upon fabricated or exaggerated Chinese news and on their arbitrary reference to international agreements. It is our purpose here to attempt to clarify the thinking of intelligent people abroad on this problem peculiar to modern warfare.

Objectives of Japanese Bombing

Japanese air raiders, following strict instructions, have scrupulously confined their bombing to military objects. In Canton, for example, what have been made objectives of attacks are: Provincial and Municipal Government buildings, Provincial Headquarters buildings of the Nationalist Party, stations of the Constabulary, barracks of the 4th Route Army engineers, munitions and ammunition factories, cement mills, wireless stations, a munitions depot, an aeroplane repair shop at Tungshan, airfields at Tienho and Pakyün, Wongsha Station, and anti-aircraft batteries. Some of these structures cannot theoretically be classed as military establishments; but the fact is that the Provincial Government buildings have been used as the military headquarters and the Municipal Government and Party Headquarters buildings have also been used for military purposes, a fact that the Japanese Navy has learned from reliable sources. As for cement mills, from the nature of cement as an essential war material they must be classified as munitions factories. Similarly, Wongsha Station, which is really a dump for all kinds of implements and materials of war and which constitutes at the same time an essential point in military transportation, cannot but be considered as a military object.

It has frequently been reported that Japanese naval air forces have bombed educational institutions. Schools and hospitals should not, of course, be regarded as objectives of bombing; they are to be

protected as much as possible. When, however, these institutions are used for military purposes, the matter assumes a totally different aspect. Accordingly, Article 25 of the Draft of Rules of Aerial Warfare prescribes :

> . . . All necessary steps must be taken . . . to spare as far as possible buildings dedicated to public worship, art, science, or charitable purposes, . . . hospitals and other places where the sick and wounded are collected, provided such buildings, objects or places are not at the time used for military purposes. . . . .

As clearly seen among the ruins on the Shanghai front, the Chinese appear to make it a rule to employ these privileged institutions for essential military purposes, extreme instances being that school buildings appear to have been designed with military purposes in view.

Rules Regulating Aerial Warfare

What, then, are the Rules regulating aerial warfare ? There have indeed been fairly complete sets of international rules and agreements regulating conducts of belligerents in warfares other than aerial ones, such as treaties and declarations relating to chemical, bacterial, naval and land warfares, and those relating to neutrality which number approximately 19. With regard to aerial warfare, however, there have never been any definite rules internationally adopted. For in the days of the Second Hague Peace Conference (1907), when those important laws and regulations of war were arranged and adjusted, the progress in aircrafts that we are witnessing today was not even dreamed of.

In the Declaration Prohibiting the Discharge of Projectiles and Explosives from Balloons, which had been adopted at the first Conference of 1899 and was revised at the second Conference of 1907, it is stated :

> The contracting Powers agree to prohibit, for a period extending to the close of the Third Peace Conference, the discharge of projectiles and explosives from balloons or by other new methods of a similar nature.

This Declaration still holds good today. Since, however, its Signatories are limited in number (Japan is not a party to it) and since the Declaration itself is in the nature not of authoritative but of provisional pronouncement, no signatory nation would refrain altogether from bombing from the air in adherence to this declaration, should there arise a war between themselves.

Article 25 of the Convention Relative to Land Warfare forbidding " The attack or bombardment, by any means whatever, of towns,

villages, habitations, or buildings which are not defended " has been construed by some as rendering air raids on undefended cities illegitimate. According to the letters of this provision, such an interpretation may be warranted, but the circumstances in which this Convention came to be concluded will greatly modify its application. As a matter of fact, this treaty was revised at the same conference that adopted the above-mentioned Declaration regarding bombing from balloons. Is it not irrational, then, that one and the same conference should try, on the one hand, to declare totally against aerial attacks and, on the other hand, to make provisions for aerial attacks on defended cities? Such being the case, Article 25 of the Convention cannot possibly be regarded as having in view aerial attacks by balloons and by other means. Be that as it may, it is impossible to try to circumscribe activities of modern aircrafts by such antiquated, unimportant provisions. It must be concluded that no definite rules regulating conducts of aircrafts in time of war have been in existence as yet.

Accordingly, the Japanese Naval Air Force has been unavoidably regulating its conduct in consultation with the Draft of Rules of Aerial Warfare which was framed by a Commission of Jurists to Consider the Amendment of the Laws of War which met at The Hague in 1922–23 and in which Japan, the British Empire, the United States, France, Italy and Holland participated. The Convention Respecting Bombardment by Naval Forces in Time of War, which was signed in 1907, has also been referred to.

Following are the provisions in the Draft of Rules of Aerial Warfare having direct bearing on the present question :

Article 22

Aerial bombardment for the purpose of terrorizing the civilian population, of destroying or damaging private property not of military character, or of injuring non-combatants is prohibited.

Article 24

(1) Aerial bombardment is legitimate only when directed at a military objective, that is to say, an object of which the destruction or injury would constitute a distinct military advantage to the belligerent.

(2) Such bombardment is legitimate only when directed exclusively at the following objectives : Military forces ; military works ; military establishments or depots ; factories constituting important and well-known centres engaged in the manufacture of arms, ammunition or distinctly military supplies ; lines of com-

munication or transportation used for military purposes.

(3) The bombardment of cities, towns, villages, dwellings or buildings not in the immediate neighbourhood of the operations of land forces is prohibited. In cases where the objectives specified in paragraph 2 are so situated, that they cannot be bombarded without the indiscriminate bombardment of the civilian population, the aircraft must abstain from bombardment.

(4) In the immediate neighbourhood of the operations of land forces, the bombardment of cities, towns, villages, dwellings or buildings is legitimate provided that there exists a reasonable presumption that the military concentration is sufficiently important to justify such bombardment, having regard to the danger thus caused to the civilian population.

(5) A belligerent State is liable to pay compensation for injuries to person or to property caused by the violation by any of its officers or forces of the provisions of this article.

Article 25

In bombardment by aircraft, all necessary steps must be taken by the commander to spare as far as possible buildings dedicated to public worship, art, science, or charitable purposes, historic monuments, hospital ships, hospitals and other places where the sick and wounded are collected, provided such buildings, objects or places are not at the time used for military purposes.

The point to be noted in these provisions is the abandonment of the conception of " defended " and " undefended " as the test of legitimacy in aerial bombardment, which is clearly pointed out in the report of the Commission as follows :

It will be noticed that for aerial bombardment the test adopted in Article 25 of the Land Warfare Regulations, that of towns, etc. being defended, is abandoned. The nature of the objective or the use to which it is being put now becomes the test.

The British draft submitted to the same Commission stipulated :

Aerial bombardment is legitimate only when directed at a military objective. Its legitimacy depends, not on the fact that a town or other places is " defended," but on its constituting even temporarily a military objective.

The American draft also made no distinction between the defended and undefended towns. In these views the Japanese draft was in agreement.

"Defended" and "Undefended"

That the test adopted in the aforementioned provisions in the Land Warfare Regulations of defended towns has been abandoned and that the test of the nature of the objective or the use to which it is being put has been adopted instead in the Draft of Rules of Aerial Warfare are not merely rational as a general step but also admittedly valid as applied particularly to aerial warfare.

Those censuring Japanese bombing, however, invariably say that undefended towns have been raided. The Resolution adopted by the Far Eastern Advisory Committee of the League of Nations on September 27th also condemned air attacks "on open Chinese cities" by Japanese naval air forces and declared that there was "no justification for such methods of warfare." Recent raids on Canton have given occasion to similar opinions. Such condemnation comes from the views dominated by the old idea of open or undefended towns, the views which will prove to be extremely perilous to the attacked. If the legitimacy of indiscriminate attacks on defended towns is maintained according to the old conception and if the vague, undefinable idea of defended and undefended towns is adhered to, the attacked will inevitably be placed in a most precarious position.

Further analysis of the idea of defended and undefended towns will clarify the question. Some hold, in this connection, that a town is defended when it has either the establishments or fighting strength to prevent its occupation by an enemy force. Others object to this view of placing the emphasis on the defensive strength against the hostile occupation on the ground that in case of bombardment of towns by naval forces they will not infrequently bombard the coast line of the enemy country for the purpose not of occupation but of destruction only. And either of these views gives rise to the question as to what is the mininum size and strength of the existing defensive works and fighting forces by which the town can be called defended. The question has to be left practically to the judgement of the commander of the attacking force. When the same question is applied to aerial attacks, its vagueness and undefinability increase all the more.

Since there will be no modern cities of importance which are left totally undefended against attacks by land, sea or air forces in respect of its defensive works or fighting strength, any one of them may be considered as defended. And once the city is deemed defended, the attacker is entitled to act indiscriminately by bombarding any objects in it regardless of whether or not they are of military character. As a matter of fact, in the British and American Rules of Land Warfare it is provided that in bombarding defended towns the ob-

jectives need not be confined to defensive establishments such as the fortress and troops. It follows, therefore, that the conception of " defended " and " undefended " will prove to be a menace to the attacked. The much talked-of undefendedness of Canton and Hankow, in this connection, is totally unwarranted ; they are defended cities in all respects. In particular, Hankow as seen from the point of view of naval warfare can be regarded as a defended city simply on the ground that mines are laid outside its harbour. Consequently, Japan would be justified, according to the test adopted by her critics with regard to the status of defended and undefended towns, even in resorting to indiscriminate bombardment. An instance of the attack on a purely undefended town has been found in the French bombing of German health resorts having no military significance, an act which was carried out during the World War as one of reprisal. The British view that an exception should be made of aerial bombardment of certain isolated regions for police purposes expressed on the occasion of the plenary session of the Disarmament Conference at Geneva when the question of entire abolition of aerial bombardment was taken up will serve as a further example of the irrationality of condemning Japan on the part of Western nations with regard to this new method of war. As British Delegate, Mr. Anthony Eden made a statement to the following effect :

> It was well foreseen that the proposal of making such an exception would meet with objection. Aerial bombardment of this sort has been already made in some mandated regions to the knowledge of the League of Nations but no comment has yet been heard about it. In some parts of the world, because of their terrain or of the wide dispersal of the inhabitants, or because the violent-tempered inhabitants imperil the good inhabitants in the neighbouring areas, large military forces would always have to be kept and many lives would be sacrificed in times of disturbance, if aerial bombardment were not possible. Therefore, Great Britain, although she desires to make the prohibition of aerial bombardment absolute and general, had to insist upon an exception such as the above.

Accordingly, the recent bombings of native inhabitants in Northern India, most relentless aerial attacks, were doubtless carried out as a matter of course.

Endeavouring to Minimize Danger to Civilians

So much for the theoretical analysis of Japanese attacks from the air. A few more lines may be pertinent here, however, by way

of explaining how Japanese aviators have actually endeavoured to minimize dangers for civilians.

When the airmen were starting on the attack, the commander would never fail to give them full instructions, calling for strict obedience to orders and indicating clearly the objectives of their attack. Moreover, the commander would call their attention not to cause destruction to civilian and foreign life and property, instructing them to stop bombing in case of possible danger of causing such destruction. There have been scores of cases in which Japanese aviators came back without discharging bombs from the air over the cities to be attacked on account either of failure to definitely mark out the objectives or of the possible heavy destruction of civilian life and property. To have issued warnings, to have given notice of intended attacks, to have flown low so as better to ascertain the objectives—all these give evidence of how sincerely the Japanese Naval Air Force has made efforts to safeguard non-combatants.

One final point. In treating of any actual acts of fighting, one must not reckon without human limitations. However sincere they have been in their endeavours and however excellent they have been in their marksmanship, Japanese aviators are human, and as such they have not been entirely free from errors. Thus, unfortunate incidents have occurred and unaccountable destructions have been caused. Such incidents, which occur, in part, from the nature of modern warfare, are greatly to be regretted.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

—A Review of the First Year of the China Affair—

BUREAU OF INFORMATION, DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

INTERNATIONAL relations centering in the China Affair have been complicated and eventful. During the past year, complications have arisen from the relationships of the Powers to Japan and China, particularly from the existence of rights and interests of third Powers in the latter country. Their respective positions and interests have been reflected in their expressions of goodwill to Japan, of sympathy and aid to China, or their adherence to neutrality. On the whole, the atmosphere prevailing in Western countries, except in Germany and Italy, appears to be one of sympathy toward China, due to her propaganda against Japan and to her reliance on Western Powers. By these means China has successfully fanned anti-Japanese sentiment that has persisted throughout the several years since the Manchurian Incident. Actually, countries such as the Soviet Union and France are aiding China openly, as is widely known, either by supplying arms or by despatching aviators and technicians to that country. Still, it is to be noted that the world situation has now undergone a significant change, as compared with that at the time of the Manchurian Incident when the League of Nations passed the resolution against Japan by 42 votes to one, in that Germany and Italy, two of the great Powers, are in full support of Japan's cause.

The development of the Affair, which began as the North China Incident, and which resulted in the extension of the areas of hostilities from North China and Mongolia to Central China, in the blockade by the Japanese Navy of the whole Chinese coast to Chinese vessels, and in the occupation by Japan of principal cities, including Nanking, Peking, Tientsin, Shanghai, Tsingtao, and Hsuchow, remains fresh in memory of students of international affairs. The fall of Hsuchow with the consequent severance of the Lung-Hai Railway is to be remembered particularly as the beginning of a new and important development in which the days of Hankow, the second capital of the anti-Japanese régime under General Chiang Kai-shek, are numbered.

Together with the development of the Affair, various important

diplomatic problems between Japan and the Powers have taken place one after another. The list of problems rendering the international situation unfavourable to Japan includes: the proposal for neutralization of Shanghai, the convocation of the Assembly of the League of Nations, and the conference of the Nine Power Treaty Signatories, all of which aimed at curbing Japan's advance through the formation of a united front by the Powers; positive steps taken by the Soviet Union to aid China, one of which was the conclusion of the Sino-Soviet Agreement; the aggravation of the feeling against Japan in Western countries on account of the bombing of Nanking and Canton. Furthermore, occurrences of such unfortunate incidents as the injury of Sir Hughe Knatchbull-Hugessen, the then British Ambassador to China, the bombing of the United States gunboat Panay and of the British gunboat Ladybird, and the taking over of the Chinese customs at Shanghai, Tientsin and other places by the new Governments in North and Central China, and problems regarding the International Settlement in Shanghai have made the situation extremely tangled.

The European turmoil, at the same time, has not remained altogether unrelated to the Far Eastern situation. In the Anglo-French, Anglo-Italian, Anglo-German and French-Italian conversations and conferences held with great frequency, Far Eastern problems have been taken up along with those of the European continent. Here is illustrated the nature and scope of the Sino-Japanese conflict and how it is vitally affecting the rest of the world.

Actions of the Powers

Actions taken by the Powers, particularly by Great Britain, the Soviet Union, France, Germany, Italy and the United States, have in turn reacted upon the development of the present Affair in diverse degrees and directions, according to their respective relationships with Japan, China or both. In this sense, those of Great Britain, which has the largest interests in China and is specially related to the Nationalist Government or to General Chiang Kai-shek himself, are predominantly important in sizing up the whole situation. Movements of the Soviet Union, the Power behind the anti-Japanese united front and Nationalist-Communist collaboration and which is positively aiding the Nationalist régime with the sinister design of bolshevizing all of China, are similarly worthy of scrutiny. The attitude of France which has come to occupy the leading place in the popular front movement since the conclusion of the French-Soviet alliance and which has large interests in South

China has also to be watched. On the other hand, actions in support of Japan on the part of Germany and Italy, which are participating in the Tripartite Agreement against the Comintern, and movements of the United States, which is consistently adhering to the policy of neutrality while showing delicate internal fluctuations around neutrality legislation are, in a different sense, to be followed closely.

The Attitude of Britain

Let us review these movements in detail. The attitude of Great Britain following the outbreak of hostilities was extremely cautious, as it happened that preliminary negotiations for readjusting the Anglo-Japanese relations were then taking place. She invited the United States, France and the Soviet Union jointly to offer their good offices for preventing aggravation of the Incident and consequently for its early settlement. However, faced with the Japanese determination to refuse the interference of third Powers, Great Britain assumed for a time the position of watchful waiting. In the meanwhile, hostilities spread to the Shanghai district. England then proposed the neutralization of that part of China. When Nanking was bombed by the Japanese air forces and when China tried to restrain Japanese military operations by appealing to the League, the foremost member of the Geneva organization took a positive step for supporting China at its Assembly and brought the matter before the conference of the Nine Power Signatories.

These British moves resulted in nothing but the failure of the Assembly at Geneva and of the conference at Brussels due to the determined attitude of Japan backed by the support of Germany and Italy. Still, the British endeavours for formation of a united front against Japan were not dropped. Subsequently came the proposal for Anglo-American joint action with regard to the Panay and Ladybird incidents and the suggestion to create an investigation commission concerning the Japanese air raids on Canton.

In response to these policies of the Government, public opinion in Great Britain suddenly began to militate against Japan with the bombing of Nanking and reached its greatest pitch at the time of the Ladybird incident, giving rise to large-scale anti-Japanese boycott movements not only in the United Kingdom but throughout the Dominions and colonies. This sentiment against Japan calmed down somewhat with the speedy settlement of the unfortunate incident, and it became possible for the representatives of the two Governments to open negotiations regarding the Settlement

and Customs questions with a fair degree of smoothness. This change in attitude may be taken as a manifestation of utilitarian British diplomacy.

Soviet and French Attitudes

The attitude of the Soviet Union toward China is totally different in nature from the attitudes of other countries; her aid is ultimately directed not toward General Chiang Kai-shek nor the Nationalist Government but toward the Chinese Communists and Red China. Even after the departure of Ambassador Bogomoloff, who is reported to have been recalled because of having gone too far in aiding China and who left the Sino-Soviet Agreement as a parting present, positive steps in that direction were continued by the Soviet Government. In reality, this Government has been sending to China large numbers of aviators, army officers and technical experts as well as aeroplanes and various types of arms.

From the first, the Soviet Union chose to interpret the Japanese action in China as one of aggression and construed it as one of consolidating Japanese positions in case of a Russo-Japanese war. Accordingly, she has been trying to exhaust the strength of Japan by influencing China to resort to long-term resistance while working consistently for the creation of a Red China.

It has generally been thought impossible for the Moscow Government to launch any positive external action, in view of the growing unrest created by the series of purges throughout the most important sections of the nation, beginning with the Red Army. Contrary to this view, however, the Soviet aid to China has been somewhat bold and open. In spite of the report that Mr. Sun Fo's visit to Moscow failed of result, the question of a secret military agreement has recently come to the fore, while Nationalist-Communist collaboration has been considerably strengthened as if to endorse that rumour. Under these circumstances, importance must increasingly be attached to movements of the Soviet Union.

Public opinion in France which is tied to the Soviet Union by the bond of the popular front was seriously against Japan in the early stages of hostilities. No active moves, however, have been made beyond the selling of arms by the French Government which is fully occupied with critical developments in the European situation. As a matter of fact, so long as the arena of hostilities was confined to North and Central China, and so long as French interests were not affected directly, there was no ground for the Government at Paris to take any positive steps against the Japanese programme.

Yet, arms imported through French Indo-China, which became the most important route for the purpose after the Japanese blockade of the entire Chinese coast, totalled such volumes as to form a substantial aid to the Chinese fighting strength. Of late, furthermore, the French aid to China has been intensified as hostilities spread southward and the Japanese bombing of Canton increased in severity and frequency. French loans to the Nationalist Government have been reported repeatedly.

American Neutrality

Reaction of the United States Government to the present conflict was first voiced by Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, who made it clear that the United States cannot remain indifferent to such conflict. Despite clamorous voices for the invocation of the Neutrality Act, however, the State Department took an extremely cautious attitude. When public opinion gradually became strained against Japan, the Department, in September (1937), took the measure of prohibiting the transport of arms by Government owned vessels. Then, on October 5th and 6th, as if in response to the resolution at the League Assembly denouncing Japan, the Chicago speech of President Roosevelt and the statement of the State Department successively expressed the view that Japan was acting on the Asiatic Continent in violation of the Nine Power Treaty and the Kellog-Briand Pact. Thus the United States gave the impression that she had been converted from the principle of neutrality to that of intervention.

That tendency in the United States proved to be short-lived. As the Nine Power Conference proved fruitless, and as voices recommending the maintenance of neutrality remained unchanged, this policy was continued. The United States refused to accept the invitation extended by Great Britain for joint action against Japan with the occurrence of the Panay incident, although American public sentiment was inclining in the same direction.

Side by side with this firm stand for neutrality, it must not be overlooked that there exists in American opinion a strong tendency for sympathizing with China. With regard to air raids on Canton, for example, the question of invoking the Neutrality Act has again come to the fore, and in that connection the discontinuation of the selling of aeroplanes to Japan has been voiced strongly—these measures are reported to have been partially carried out already. Besides, the anti-Japanese boycott movement which was started with the occurrence of the Panay incident appears to be regaining

strength and intensity. The future of the American attitude, therefore, is not at all easy to predict.

The Tokyo-Rome-Berlin Axis

Germany and Italy are two countries which are giving full support to Japan on the basis of the Tokyo-Rome-Berlin Axis. The first indication of Germany's attitude was that, on the outbreak of the North China Incident, the German Ambassador to the United States informed the State Department of Germany's stand for neutrality. Subsequently, however, she made clear her attitude of supporting Japan in connection with the League Assembly and the Nine Power Conference. The attitude of Italy has been to support Japan in such a thoroughgoing way as to take comprehensive measures for prohibiting the export of arms to China. In particular, since her participation in the Anti-Comintern Agreement in November last year, she has increasingly strengthened her stand for Japan.

That the Japanese-German-Italian Agreement against the Comintern was published without warning while the Nine Power Conference was in session constituted a violent shock to the Powers. Furthermore, recognition of Manchoukuo by Germany and Italy has greatly consolidated Japan's international position. The recall of German military advisers to the Nationalist Government, headed by General Alexander von Falkenhausen, which was ordered by the German Government almost simultaneously with the fall of Hsuchow has likewise created wide repercussions not only in China but also in different parts of the world.

During these months of intricate international relations, there was one opportunity for the Nationalist Government to make peace with Japan; but this was lost when that Government showed an obstinate, irrational attitude toward the mediation offer of the German Ambassador, Herr Oskar Trautmann. Thereupon, as is widely known, the Japanese Government issued, on January 16th, the statement setting forth its irrevocable determination to deal no longer with the Chiang régime and to fight to the end that it may be taken entirely out of existence. The China Affair, amid complexities of international relations, has now entered its third phase, the phase of long-term hostilities.

THE CARE OF WOUNDED SOLDIERS

BOARD FOR THE PROTECTION OF WOUNDED SOLDIERS

FULL provisions for the protection and care of soldiers disabled by injuries sustained in battle or by illness form a solemn obligation on the part of a grateful nation. Without such provisions, the present China Affair can never be regarded as successfully concluded. Concrete measures are being studied whereby these disabled soldiers may recover physically and mentally and soon be enabled to carry on occupations and to become independent both socially and economically.

In practice, the work of caring for sick and wounded soldiers is full of difficulties and requires technical knowledge and skill because of its extreme complexity. The nature and degree of injury or illness, the family circumstances and other conditions of the soldiers differ according to individuals, and it is not easy to deal with all cases promptly, kindly and justly and achieve the desired results.

One thing to be borne in mind here is that the undertaking must not be regarded as charity work as it has been prone to be regarded in the past, on the assumption that these unfortunate veterans were ordinary crippled persons. In view of this possible misconception, the Government has paid particular attention to the matter and has made a detailed study regarding the guiding principles to be followed.

With the expansion of hostilities in China, there was established on November 1st, 1937 a Provisional Division for Military Relief within the Bureau of Social Affairs of the Home Office. The Section for Protection of Wounded Soldiers of that division worked as the central organ making investigations and formulating protective measures for sick and wounded soldiers. But when the Department of Welfare was established last January, the work of dealing with these affairs was transferred to it. The new Department promptly organized the Council on Protective Measures for Sick and Wounded Soldiers, with the Minister of Welfare, Marquis Koichi Kido, as president. The detailed report of this Council which was presented at its second plenary session on January 27th, formed the basis of the present Government policy for the protection of sick and wounded soldiers. The necessary appropriations for 1938 were

approved at the 73rd session of the Imperial Diet; the Board for the Protection of Wounded Soldiers was established.

The Board has now become the central organ for the work of caring for disabled veterans. Under the jurisdiction of the Department of Welfare also is the work of assisting and directing prefectural authorities and various organizations engaged in similar undertakings.

Organization and Functions of the Board

The Board for the Protection of Wounded Soldiers is under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Welfare, and has charge of affairs pertaining to the healing and rehabilitation of wounded soldiers (including persons considered as such who were wounded or taken ill while in service).

The organization of the Board includes a president, a vice-president, a secretariate of general affairs, and two departments for planning and for general activities. The Planning Department consists of three sections for direction, planning and management, while the General Activities Department is divided into three sections of business, guidance and medical treatment. The presidency of the Board is an honorary office to be held by one with "shin-nin" rank, receiving Imperial appointment. As the first President, General Baron Shigeru Honjo has been appointed. In view of the importance of the work of the Board, as many as five advisers, 15 councillors and a number of technical experts have been selected to serve for two years.

An original appropriation of about 140,000 yen was made in 1937 to provide for the spiritual comfort and vocational guidance as well as medical treatment of disabled soldiers. To provide spiritual instruction and guidance, Major-General Chuon Sakurai, author of the famous book *Human Bullets*, and nine others were engaged. They visited and delivered lectures at all army and navy hospitals of the country. For vocational instruction, ten experts were commissioned by the Board and sent to these hospitals to train the injured veterans in future occupations. As for medical treatment, hospitals and clinics, both public and private, and hotels at various hot-spring resorts were entrusted with the care of the veterans in white.

These were merely emergency measures to meet the immediate situation. With the establishment of the Board for the Protection of Wounded Soldiers, regular and permanent work of protection was inaugurated, four main divisions of which are described below.

1 Work Relating to Cultural and Educational Improvement

Emphasis is placed on the importance of strengthening the spirit of loyalty in the wounded soldiers so that they will be ready as before to serve the State with honour and pride by exercising proper self-control. At the same time the general public is to be educated so that it will retain always its deep respect and gratitude toward the wounded veterans, who will happily be reinstated in society.

(*a*) *Cultural Instruction for the Wounded*

Despatching of lecturers to give spiritual guidance, lecture meetings, joint tours of inspection and study, meetings for moral and cultural advancement, production of motion-pictures, and distribution of suitable literature are among the measures placed in this category.

(*b*) *Education of the General Public*

The public is to be educated with a view to improving its attitude toward the disabled, through lecture meetings, encouragement of suitable literary production, and publication and distribution of various literatures. National educational campaigns are to be held every year to train the general populace in that regard in their everyday life.

(*c*) *Other Measures*

Public ceremonies in honour of wounded soldiers and the supervision and encouragement of various educational organizations concerned in work for soldiers are contemplated.

2 Medical Care

Appropriate measures have been taken to provide the necessary medical care, in cases of relapse from recovery, tuberculosis and mental disorders after the patients have been discharged from hospitals, and to enable them to be treated in their home districts as far as possible in consideration of their family circumstances.

(*a*) *Establishment of Sanatoriums for Wounded Soldiers*

The present plan is to establish a sanatorium for mental diseases (with capacity of one hundred men), recuperatory sanatoriums in hot-spring resorts (ten such establishments at suitable spas, each with a capacity of caring for a hundred men at a time), and sanatoriums for tubercular cases (twenty-five establishments in suitable places in the country, each capable of holding five hundred patients).

(*b*) *Treatments by Commission System*

Until the above-mentioned establishments are erected, treat-

ments for the wounded soldiers are entrusted as far as possible to public and private hospitals and hotels at hot-spring spas. Even after the completion of the government sanatoriums, this will be done in case these places are full and cannot care for more patients.

(*c*) *Supply of Appliances and Medical Treatment*

Such appliances as perambulators and beds are supplied as required, while medical treatment other than that mentioned in the preceding paragraphs is also given.

(*d*) *Admission into the Institute for Wounded Soldiers*

This Institute is located at Odawara in Kanagawa Prefecture.

3 Vocational Aid

To enable the wounded soldiers to utilize their abilities to the fullest extent in accordance with environmental conditions and to face the future with hope, vocational guidance, adult education and assistance in finding suitable employments are given. In affording vocational aid, the policy is that the injured soldiers are, in principle, to be restored to their former occupations ; but in the cases of those who cannot be so restored or who had no occupations before, new occupations are to be provided.

(*a*) *Establishments for Vocational Direction*

Besides giving vocational instruction at two or three "Institutes for Vocational Training" (accommodating two hundred men) to be established in different parts of the country, the existing establishment, the Keisei-sha, will be expanded to educate a hundred men at a time. Furthermore, in order to give minor vocational training, some fifty "Institutes for Vocational Training" will be founded and managed by different prefectures.

(*b*) *Vocational Guidance*

In order to give proper guidance to the wounded soldiers on matters pertaining to the nature of their injuries or illness with reference to occupations suitable to them, as well as to their individual desires and selection of their future occupations, various employment agencies are encouraged to be more active. Vocational advisers and officials in charge of affairs concerning vocational guidance are to be installed in prefectural offices.

(*c*) *Expediting Employment*

Efforts will be made to expedite the securing of employment for wounded veterans through redoubled activities on the part of employment agencies. Government offices are to be urged

to lead the public in giving work to the injured soldiers and industrial circles are to be urged to cooperate. In the meantime, subsidies are being granted to those employers who make such alterations in working equipment as will meet the requirements of the sick or wounded ex-servicemen.

(*d*) *Encouragement of Independent Proprietors*

Proper guidance will be given the wounded soldiers who are independent proprietors of business, and to them business capital will be loaned through protective organizations subsidized by the Government.

(*e*) *Distribution and Repair of Artificial Limbs and Supplementary Apparatuses*

To those who have been crippled, artificial limbs or other apparatuses are provided, thereby increasing their efficiency and making it easier for them to obtain jobs.

4 Work Relative to Generous Treatment of Wounded Soldiers

It is proper that both the Government and the people should express their gratitude to the wounded soldiers and accord them courteous and generous treatment.

(*a*) *Aid for the Education of Children of Wounded Soldiers*

As one of the primary interests of wounded soldiers is in obtaining education for their children, subsidies will be granted to prefectural offices with which supplementary funds for education of these children in intermediate schools will be created.

(*b*) *Subsidy to the Japanese Wounded Soldiers Association*

Subsidies are to be granted to the Japanese Wounded Soldiers Association, an organization founded by wounded soldiers for their mutual benefit, with which the association will establish its branches in various prefectures. These branches will each have a consultation office for wounded soldiers, which will give advice on personal affairs.

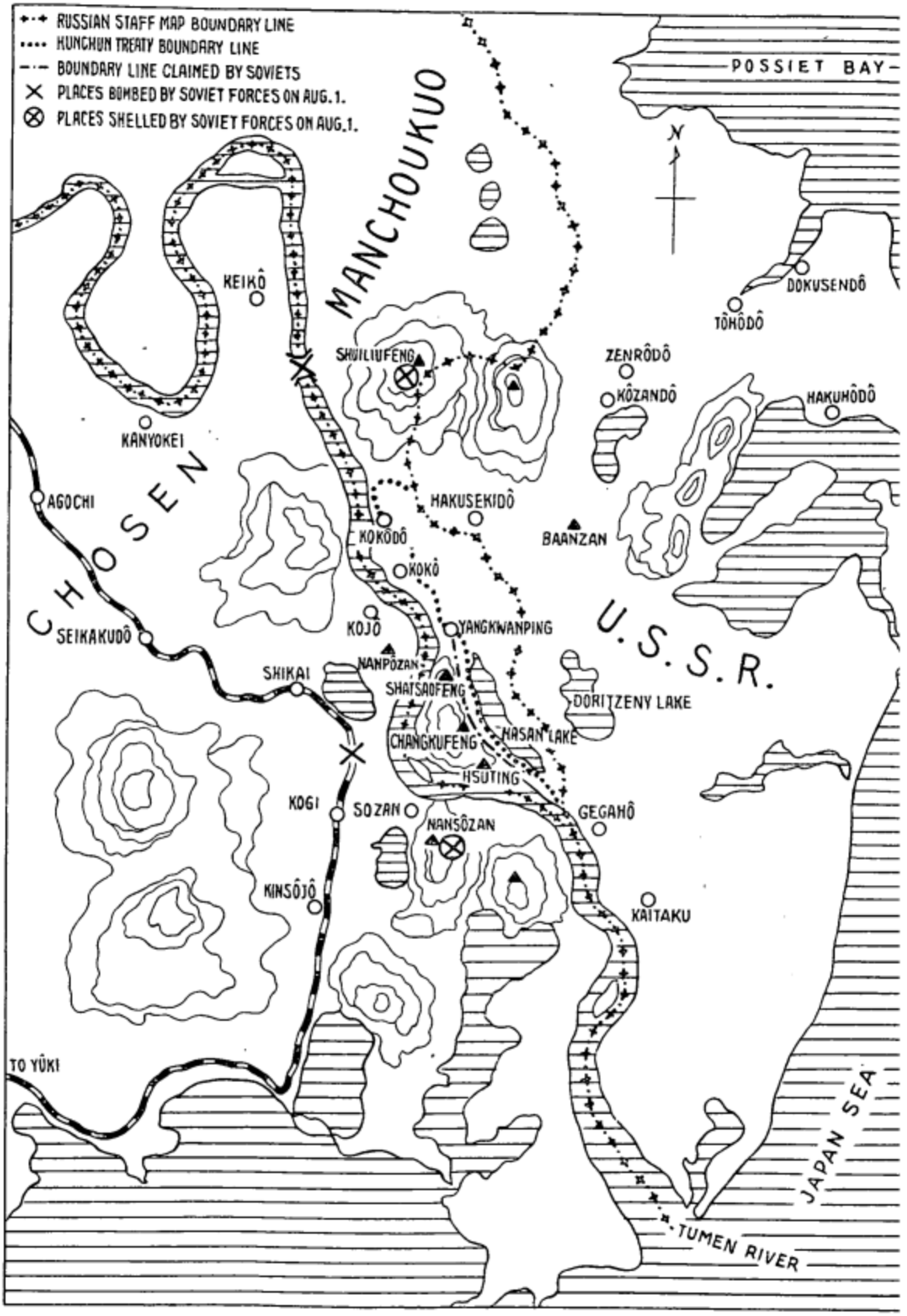
(*c*) *Establishment of a Foundation*

As an organ to aid the work for the care of wounded soldiers, an appropriate foundation is to be established which will support the work of finding occupations for wounded soldiers as well as the work of creating State establishments.

All these undertakings have been planned with due regard to the fundamental principle of Japan's polity and with reference to her past experiences and those of other countries. It is believed, therefore, that the enterprise, by virtue of its well-formulated

organization and thoroughness, will achieve fully the object of protecting and caring for wounded and sick soldiers.

In the words of the late President Wilson uttered at the close of the World War: "There is no more solemn obligation on the part of our people than to cure the wounds of the soldiers, to restore them to civic life and afford them an equality of opportunity." Needless to say, Japan's wounded soldiers are great contributors toward the progress of our nation, and it is a matter of course that they become the object of gratitude and generous treatment on the part of the whole nation.


RUSSIAN STAFF MAP BOUNDARY LINE
KUNCHUN TREATY BOUNDARY LINE
BOUNDARY LINE CLAIMED BY SOVIETS
PLACES BOMBED BY SOVIET FORCES ON AUG. 1.
PLACES SHELLED BY SOVIET FORCES ON AUG. 1.
POSSIET BAY
MANCHOUKUO
CHOSEN
U.S.S.R.
KEIKÔ
KANYOKEI
AGOCHI
SEIKAKUDÔ
SHIKAI
KOJÔ
KOKÔDÔ
KOKÔ
HAKUSEKIDÔ
SHUILIUFENG
NANPÔZAN
SHATSAOFENG
CHANGKUFENG
YANGKWANPING
HSUTING
HASAN LAKE
DORITZENY LAKE
BAANZAN
ZENRÔDÔ
KÔZANDÔ
HAKUHÔDÔ
DOKUSENDÔ
TÔHÔDÔ
KOGI
SOZAN
NANSÔZAN
KINSÔJÔ
GEGAHÔ
KAITAKU
TO YÛKI
JAPAN SEA
TUMEN RIVER

THE CHANGKUFENG INCIDENT

—The Soviet-Manchoukuo Border Dispute—

BUREAU OF INFORMATION, DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

THREE Soviet cavalrymen suddenly appeared near Changkufeng, in Manchoukuo territory, situated on the lower stream of the Tumen River and west of Lake Hasan, on July 6th. They were reconnoitring the vicinity. On July 11th at about 11 o'clock in the morning, several Soviet soldiers, having unlawfully crossed over the Manchoukuo border, halted on the Changkufeng ridge and began to construct a military position there. Thereafter, reinforcements were made; on the 13th, as many as forty Soviet soldiers were steadily constructing the position on the Changkufeng hill.

Accordingly, on the afternoon of July 14th, the Manchoukuo Government ordered Mr. Nobusada Shimomura, its foreign affairs commissioner at Harbin, to present a strong protest to Mr. Vladimir Kuznetsov, the acting Soviet Consul-General there, concerning the illegal actions of the Soviet soldiers. And on July 15th, the Foreign Department of the Japanese Government instructed Mr. Haruhiko Nishi, Chargé d'Affaires of the Japanese Embassy at Moscow, to make, through Mr. Boris S. Stomoniakov, the Soviet Foreign Vice-Commissar, an urgent demand to the Soviet Government for the immediate withdrawal of its soldiers from the above territory, and to warn the same Government that all responsibility for any complications which might arise in consequence of its refusal to comply with the demand would rest wholly with the Soviet Government. This demand was presented by Mr. Nishi on that day. At 11 o'clock that night he made another call on Mr. Stomoniakov, and held conversations with him for four hours, reiterating the demand of the Japanese Government; but the latter insisted to the end that the Changkufeng ridge which was occupied by the Soviet soldiers trespassing the Manchoukuo border belonged to the Soviet Union and flatly rejected the Japanese demand for evacuation. Thus the long conversations ended in failure.

Aggravation of the Incident

The situation on the spot was growing worse. In the direction of Soviet territory from Novokievsk to Fatash the construction of

military positions was going on and war-time actions were being started; from July 17th, the transportation by battleship of military forces from Vladivostok to Possiet Bay was commenced and reinforcements were constantly made. The Soviet forces which had illegally taken possesion of Changkufeng advanced farther from there to the line connecting it with Chiangchunfeng. Having occupied the line, they were vigorously fortifying it. Thus the challenge of the Soviets became manifest. In the meantime, a party of four Japanese soldiers, including Corporal Ito and Gendarme Corporal Matsushima, in order to reconnoitre the condition of the border illegally crossed by the Soviet soldiers, went over a river near a ferry north of Shosozan; and when they reached the vicinity of Hsuting northeast of a three-forked road, they were suddenly fired on by Soviet soldiers. This unlawful act resulted in the death of Gendarme Matsushima.

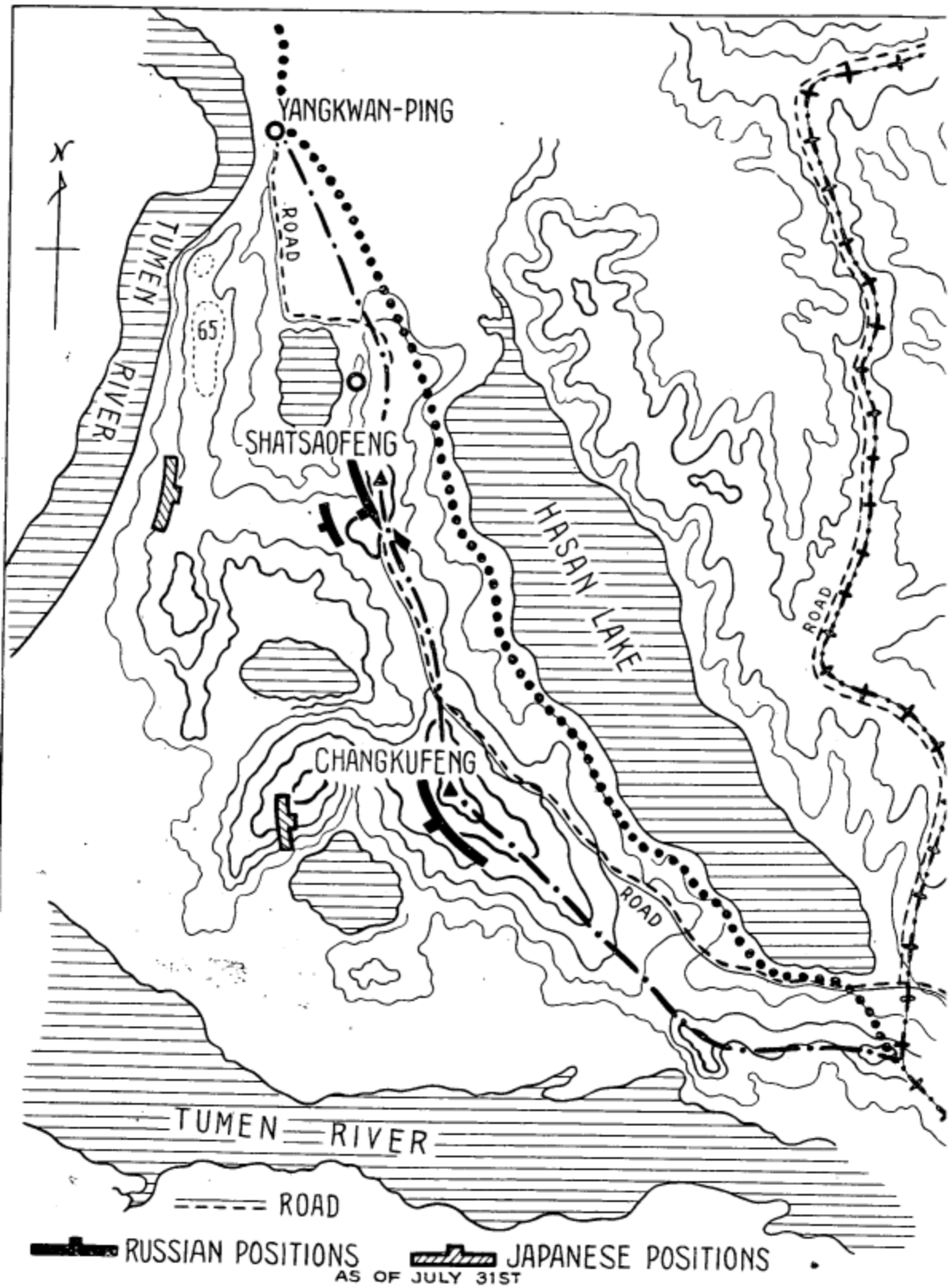
In view of the pressing situation thus created by the challenge of the Soviet soldiers on the spot, the Foreign Office of the Manchoukuo Government on July 18th instructed its representative at Harbin, Mr. Shimomura, to request a call from the acting Soviet Consul-General and to present a further protest. Mr. Shimomura obtained the visit of Mr. Kuznetsov and reiterated to him the protest of July 14th, strongly urging reflection on the Soviet side and demanding that he use all the means at his disposal to bring about a peaceful settlement of the conflict. But the acting Consul-General showed no signs of acting on the Japanese-Manchoukuoan demand. The parley actually ended in a rupture.

On the same day, the 18th, the authorities of the Japanese Garrison defending the Korea-Manchoukuo border presented an urgent demand to the commander of the Soviet defence forces at Novokievsk to withdraw the Soviet soldiers from Changkufeng, warning him that in case the Japanese demand was rejected the Japanese side would take drastic action. Moreover, as the shooting of Gendarme Matsushima had occurred, Mr. Nishi, the Japanese Chargé d'Affaires, called again on Mr. Stomoniakov and presented to him another vigorous protest. Mr. Nishi refuted outright the idea of considering the Japanese gendarme corporal and his party as border trespassers and the Soviet claim to impute the responsibility for the incident on the Japanese side. Further, owing to the growing intensity of the situation, Mr. Mamoru Shigemitsu, the Japanese Ambassador to the Soviet Union, who was travelling in Northern Europe, returned by air from Stockholm to Moscow to proceed personally in further negotiations with respect to the impending problem. While on the afternoon of the 18th, the authorities of the Manchoukuo border

guards sent an energetic note to the commander of the Soviet defence forces at Novokievsk through the O.G.P.U. stationed at Karachin in Soviet territory, demanding immediate evacuation of the illegally occupied Manchoukuo territory and prompt cessation of military constructions therein.

Still, conditions did not improve. On the contrary, in addition to the murder of Corporal Matsushima, another unhappy incident occurred. When Gendarme Corporal Iwade and a party of the Manchoukuo police were going up Lake Ussuri from Hulin on the 18th to investigate the case of several Manchoukuo fishermen arrested on the lake, Iwade was wounded by the illegal fire of the Soviet soldiery. So on the 19th, both the Manchoukuo and the Japanese Foreign Offices, through their respective representative channels, sent a firm note of protest to the Moscow Government. In addition to the aggravating events mentioned above, on the afternoon of the 18th, two Soviet planes, from the direction of Furugelma Island, came flying along the Tumen River toward Manchoukuo territory. Subsequently, the Soviet planes commenced vigorous activities in the entire vicinity of Changkufeng and reinforcements of military forces accompanied the air activities. The Soviet forces, taking advantage of the moonlight on the 19th, continued their military constructions on the spot, stationed a group of artillery-men at Changkufeng and added a number of infantry-men, increasing their forces to an estimated strength of 200 men. The situation had become very threatening.

At this juncture, Ambassador Shigemitsu paid a visit to Mr. Maxim Litvinov, the Soviet Foreign Commissar, on the afternoon of the 20th, and fully explained to him the reasons for the fact that Changkufeng and its entire vicinity belonged to Manchoukuo. He urged for the prompt retirement of the Soviet forces from the region. To this the Soviet Commissar strongly asserted that the region in question was Soviet territory and showed no conciliatory attitude on the matter. Consequently the first conversations between Messrs. Shigemitsu and Litvinov ended without result. Notwithstanding such challenging actions and uncompromising attitude of the Soviet forces and authority, the Japanese forces on the spot and the military authorities in the vicinity of the border restrained their indignation, showed patience and caution, and did everything in their power to prevent aggravation of the incident. The Foreign Office of the Manchoukuo Government, too, made repeated negotiations with the Soviet authorities but the latter were extremely insincere in their attitude. Therefore, the Manchoukuo foreign authorities deemed it unwise to continue negotiations with the Soviet Union; and so they made public a statement on July 20th to that effect.


YANGKWAN-PING
ROAD
TUMEN RIVER
65
SHATSAOFENG
HASAN LAKE
ROAD
CHANGKUFENG
ROAD
TUMEN RIVER
ROAD
RUSSIAN POSITIONS
JAPANESE POSITIONS
AS OF JULY 31ST

Hostilities Started

The Soviet forces on and around Changkufeng ridge were strengthening their military positions, making reinforcements, and were becoming increasingly undisguised in their challenges. They retained the two parlementaires sent to them by the authorities of the Japanese border guards on July 18th and released them only on the 26th—a very sinister act on their part. Simultaneously with the reinforcements of the Soviet land forces, the activities of the Soviet aeroplanes became very marked, making the situation extremely alarming. Yet the Japanese side was patient and cautious, endeavouring to avoid serious complications and leaving all to diplomatic negotiations.

On July 28th, several Soviet patrol soldiers illegally crossed the Manchoukuo border and were reconnoitring the northern side of Changkufeng and the area southwest of Shatsaofeng. On the evening of the 29th, some ten Soviet soldiers were attempting to occupy a hill about one kilometre south of Shatsaofeng and a line about 350 metres from the border according to the Hunchun Agreement and to dig trenches protecting soldiers with light machine-guns and rifles. The Japanese soldiers on surveillance duty drove the Soviet soldiers away from the above places and took possession of them. But in order to avoid conflict, the Japanese withdrew to their former position.

At 4:30 p. m., July 30th, Soviet troops with several tanks advanced 500 metres inside the Manchoukuo border line, taking advantage of the heavy rain. They were protected by the heavy fire of artillery units stationed east and southeast of Lake Hasan. The Japanese side had to increase its forces to stay the Soviet onslaught. Thus the situation became so bad that conflict seemed inevitable. Early on the morning of the 31st, the Soviet troops advanced under cover of darkness. Thereupon the Japanese units which had hitherto maintained patience and restraint for the previous twenty days could no longer remain silent ; they responded resolutely to the enemy fire ; by about 6 o'clock on the same morning they drove the Soviet forces completely outside the boundary line and recaptured Changkufeng and Shatsaofeng which had been held by Soviet troops since the 11th of July. In this clsah between the two forces, the Soviet side suffered more than 200 men killed and wounded and lost 11 tanks and two quick-firing guns which were captured by the Japanese.

Regardless of the true facts of the trespass of the Soviet soldiers, Mr. Constantin Smetanin, Chargé d'Affaires of the Soviet Embassy at Tokyo, called on Mr. Kensuke Horinouchi, the Japanese Vice-Foreign Minister, on July 30th, and presented a counter protest to the Japanese Government. Mr. Horinouchi, of course, refuted the

protest of Mr. Smetanin immediately. On August 1st, in accordance with the instruction of his home Government, Mr. Miyakawa, First Secretary of the Japanese Embassy at Moscow, called on Mr. Salapukin, chief of the Japanese section of the Soviet Foreign Commissariat, and delivered a serious protest to the Moscow Government.

In the meantime, the Soviet troops that had sustained heavy losses at Changkufeng and Shatsaofeng in the clash of July 31st and had retreated outside the border received reinforcements from various directions. During the afternoon of the same day they directed fire against the Japanese forces at Changkufeng and Shuiliufeng. On August 1st, Soviet planes flew in formation repeatedly over the Soviet-Manchoukuo border and illegally bombed various places in the unfortified zone. The following morning, the Soviet troops launched attacks against Shatsaofeng and the 52-metre hill on the southern side of Lake Hasan. When they lost three out of eight tanks because of the Japanese fire they retreated. Yet, on the afternoon of the same day, August 2nd, the Soviets made a general onslaught on the Shatsaofeng area only to be repulsed by the counter-attack of the Japanese forces. At the same time about 30 Soviet planes flew over Kojo and dropped bombs from a great height.

From dawn till evening on August 3rd, the Soviets directed vigorous fire against the entire region of Changkufeng, Kojo, Nanfensan and Shuiliufeng. They conducted sporadic raids on August 4th and 5th but on the 6th the Soviets resumed activities. At dawn, the enemy massed two and a half battalions of infantry and 110 tanks on the 29-metre hill at the southeastern extremity of Lake Hasan and at a spot north of Shatsaofeng and made vigorous assaults in order to recapture Changkufeng and Shatsaofeng. That afternoon, from 13 to 40 Soviet planes flew three times from the vicinity of Changkufeng and Shatsaofeng to Sosan, Kogi and Shikai in Korea and bombed the railway stations. In the skirmishes on that day the Soviets lost 4 guns, had 40 to 50 tanks destroyed and had one plane shot down by the Japanese. From the night of the 6th till August 10th, the Soviet troops continued their attacks. From the morning of the 7th, the Soviet planes flew in great formation and made raids on the railway tracks around Kogi Station, artillery positions, a ferry, Changkufeng and Shuiliufeng and their neighbourhoods and other points. The total number of Soviet planes in action on that day was about 100; they dropped as many as 500 bombs.

Similar events took place on the 8th. Early on this day, two Soviet soldiers surrendered to the Japanese in the vicinity of Shatsaofeng and at Chiehchungyuan at the southern base of the Shuiliufeng mountain. From the evening of the 9th, about 3 Soviet battalions with

tanks and mountain-guns made repeated attacks against Changkufeng, but they were all repulsed with great losses by the Japanese forces. On the morning of the 10th they continued their attacks against Changkufeng and its neighbourhood; but from that day their attacks became more or less negative and lacking in vigour.

The losses sustained in the clashes between the Soviets and Japanese up till 6 p.m., August 8th, as far as could be ascertained were: on the Japanese side, 70 killed and 180 wounded up to the 6th, since then about 200 wounded and killed; on the Soviet side, the number of dead and wounded is estimated at about 1,500; in addition about 100 Soviet tanks were destroyed and 6 planes shot down.

Negotiations at Moscow

Diplomatic negotiations were continuing. On August 5th, Japan's Vice-Foreign Minister, Mr. Horinouchi, invited Mr. Smetanin to call and reiterated the strong protest of the Japanese Government. While at Moscow, on August 4th Ambassador Shigemitsu called on Foreign Commissar Litvinov and made an urgent demand for the immediate cessation of the hostilities provoked by the Soviet troops on the Soviet-Manchoukuo border and its vicinity. But the Soviet Commissar insisted on the restoration of the condition prevailing on July 29th and urged rather for the withdrawal of the Japanese forces from their positions.

Again on August 7th, Ambassador Shigemitsu called on Commissar Litvinov and made new proposals. The Japanese Ambassador spoke in a peaceful and conciliatory spirit and proposed that, on the condition that the Japanese and the Soviet troops would remain in their present positions or retire to fixed points, the representatives of both forces should negotiate on the spot and draw up concrete plans for the settlement of the incident. Mr. Litvinov, however, adhered tenaciously to his contention for the restoration of the condition prevailing at the front on July 29th and for the maintenance of the boundary line as indicated on the map attached to the Hunchung Agreement—an agreement concluded by China and Czarist Russia, said to have fixed a border line between the two countries. Although negotiations came to a standstill, Mr. Shigemitsu did not abandon his peaceful endeavours. As a result of the sincere efforts on the part of Japan and of the final concession on the part of the Soviet Union to work out a peaceful settlement of the incident, an agreement was reached after the third meeting of Ambassador Shigemitsu and Commissar Litvinov on August 10th. The terms of the agreement are as follows:

1. Both the Japanese and the Soviet forces shall cease hostilities at noon of August 11th, Soviet Maritime Province time.

2. Both the Japanese and the Soviet forces shall maintain their respective lines held by them at midnight, August 10th, Soviet Maritime Province time. As regards the method of carrying out the terms of the agreement, it was decided that it be determined by negotiations between representatives of the two forces on the front.

It may be added that in the Shigemitsu-Litvinov conversations on August 10th, reference was made to the question of organizing a boundary commission. Respecting this matter, Mr. Shigemitsu expressed his consent to having four members, namely, two from the Soviet Union and one each from Manchoukuo and Japan respectively; but he disagreed with the Soviet idea of including a neutral member as an arbiter. So the question of the composition of the proposed joint-boundary commission was not discussed any further at the time.

The Truce Effected

In accordance with the above Shigemitsu-Litvinov truce, the commanders of the Japanese and the Soviet troops, namely, Colonel Isamu Cho and General Schutern, chief of staff of the Far Eastern Soviet Army, met on the night of August 11th and concluded the following agreement:

1. Both the Japanese and the Soviet forces shall cease strictly all hostile actions in their present positions.

2. The bodies of the Japanese and the Soviet soldiers killed and left in the zone between their positions shall be recovered.

3. The positions held at present by the Japanese and the Soviet forces shall be mutually confirmed at noon, August 12th.

4. Documents concerning the foregoing three items shall be exchanged between the two sides.

At noon, August 12th, the Japanese representatives, comprising Colonel Cho, Lieutenant-Colonel Yoshida and Major Tanaka, and the Soviet representatives, comprising General Schutern, Politburo Major-General Semenovsky and Colonel Westov, met for the second time at the front and confirmed the respective positions according to their maps. At this meeting the Soviet representatives recognized that the crest of Changkufeng was held by the Japanese troops; and they stated that they had placed surveillance soldiers at a point about 25 metres and the first line of their forces on a line about 70 metres from Changkufeng ridge respectively. Later in the after-

noon of the same day, the Japanese and the Soviet representatives conducted an inspection of the positions held by both forces. Upon this inspection the Japanese representatives pointed out that the Soviet troops had ignored the terms of the truce agreement and had gradually advanced toward the Japanese line. This fact was recognized by the Soviet representatives. Upon further negotiations between the representatives of the two forces, the following note was signed by them concerning the cessation of hostilities and the distance between the two forces :

1. The representatives of the Japanese and the Soviet troops shall notify their respective governments concerning the positions held by them on the north side of Changkufeng ridge (the Japanese and Soviet troops were then 5 metres apart).

2. The commanders of the Japanese and the Soviet troops shall, in accordance with the decisions of the Moscow and Tokyo governments regarding the cessation of hostilities, guarantee that they will take all possible measures to prevent further trouble of any sort in the neighbourhood of Changkufeng.

3. Commencing at 10 p. m., August 12, 1938, the main bodies of the Japanese and the Soviet forces on the north side of the Changkufeng ridge shall retire to lines 80 metres from the ridge.

Following a desire of the Soviet representatives for an exchange of signed maps showing the positions of both sides based on the inspection made on August 12th, the Japanese representatives met with them for the third time at noon, August 13th, for that purpose. But upon examination, the map presented by the Soviet representatives was found inaccurate. Hence the proposed exchange of signed maps was not made and, making no further negotiations on the matter, the conference was adjourned. The Japanese representatives felt that the main purpose of the negotiations had actually been achieved at the second meeting on the previous day.

In order to assure peace, the Japanese units, according to the arrangement, moved to a point on the right shore of the Tumen River to keep a strict watch over the frontier situation. It was understood that when it became evident that the conditions of peace were actually achieved on the frontier, they would return to their normal position.

In accordance with the agreement made on August 12th, the exchange of the dead was conducted by the appointed Japanese and Soviet committees at the southeast ridge of Changkufeng on August 13th, beginning at 5 p. m. and ending at 7 p. m. As to the disposal of the body of Corporal Matsushima, the Soviet side proposed that it be settled through diplomatic negotiations as he was killed before the actual outbreak of the frontier conflict.

THE USE OF SUBSTITUTES

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

JAPAN faces two economic necessities today. One is to restrict as far as possible the importation of goods for private consumption. The other is to facilitate as far as possible the importation of raw materials for munitions.

Under a wartime economic system in which the whole economic strength of the nation must be mobilized for the preparation of war materials, it is inevitable that the production of goods for ordinary, private consumption be reduced to a certain extent. This policy has been approved and is being supported by the Japanese people. There still exists, however, a latent demand for satisfying the requirements of the daily life of the people. This conflict between the demand for war materials and that for goods for private consumption is conspicuously indicated in the prevailing situation in Japan, a country that depends largely on foreign lands for her supply of raw materials.

As a means of solving this perplexing question, various substitute articles have appeared. Produced from domestic raw materials, these articles serve to lessen the importation of non-urgent and unessential goods from abroad.

The Department of Commerce and Industry has appropriated 220,000 yen for the purpose of holding exhibitions promoting substitute manufacturing industries and of subsidizing private experiments in manufacturing substitute articles. The exhibitions are to be held in the six largest cities of Japan starting in October of this year. Additionally, the Department is cooperating with the manufacturers concerned in order to increase the production of various kinds of substitutes.

Appearance of Substitute Articles

The principal materials, the consumption of which on the part of the general public is restricted, include: steel, pig iron, copper, platinum, lead, zinc, tin, volatile oils, heavy oil, raw cotton, wool, skins and hides, and rubber. Besides these materials, non-urgent and unessential goods may not be imported freely; economy in consumption of them is of particular importance in sustaining Japan's position in the international balance of trade.

In place of many of the above articles, various kinds of substitutes have already been produced, but the latter cannot be considered perfect as yet in spite of concerted efforts made to improve them. In the following pages, the principal substitutes now being produced will be described.

Staple fibre, as a substitute for raw cotton and wool, has gained considerable popularity throughout Japan. Its quality is rapidly being improved; the development of a water-proofing process for the fibre is noteworthy.

For iron, steel and other metals, various kinds of substitutes are being studied according to uses. Primarily, metals are solid and strong, easily workable and cheap in price. For these merits, they are used for many different purposes, but there are also many cases where metals are not absolutely required: they can be replaced by porcelain and earthenware and wood, synthetic resin and other products. Porcelain and earthenware, of course, have defects, such as low resistance against impact and weakness to instantaneous changes of heat and cold. These defects have gradually been adjusted through careful selection of raw materials on the basis of recent successful studies.

For machine parts and gears, it is now possible to substitute metals with synthetic resin products. Phenol resin absorbed into organic fibre and hardened by heating and pressing processes has been found somewhat superior to metals in point of its high degree of solidity, its anti-corrosive and anti-acid properties.

Recently, porcelain and cement of great strength have been invented by Dr. Nagao Hayami. These are metal substitutes manufactured of biscuit and cement forms hardened to high degrees and made easily workable by processing with phenol resin. They can be used in place of metals for the manufacture of iron pipes and lead tubing and for related purposes.

In addition, a metal substitute known as "stoney" has recently been invented. It is used in place of metals in the manufacture of building materials, street lamp posts, safes, refrigerators and metal art goods. "Stoney" is produced from imitation marble cement mixed with special chemical preparations and hardened. It has a high degree of solidity and is water-proof, fire-proof and acid-proof. Eternit pipes, which are made of cement and asbestos, have already been used as substitutes for iron pipes.

As substitutes for cow hide, horse hide and sheep skin, skins of aquatic animals such as whales and sharks are now utilized, while vulcanized fibre, oil cloth and other imitation leathers form substitutes for leather bags and other leather products. Vulcanized

fibre is made of cotton rag paper soaked in zinc chloride solution and compressed. It is also used as a substitute for metal products.

In place of rubber, reclaimed rubber is extensively used. The latter is not inferior in its properties to rubber. Research work is being completed in Japan concerning synthetic rubber, which has already been produced in foreign countries. It is manufactured either with carbide or other hydro-carbons.

In place of hemp and jute, "maoran," a kind of flax originally grown in New Zealand's Maori region, has recently been discovered to be a suitable substitute.

Slag wool made of mineral slag and glass wool can be used for asbestos. As substitutes for raw materials in chemical industries, synthetic tannin for tanning preparations, soy bean casein for milk casein and synthetic resin for natural resins such as shellac and rosin are available. Progress is being made in the preparation of all these substitutes, but with a few exceptions, their production is still very limited. As this production is chemical in nature, it is fortunate that the chemical industry in Japan has attained its present high standard. It is anticipated that all feasible substitutes will rapidly be produced on an industrial basis.

Substitute Manufacturing Industries

The use of substitute articles has hitherto been considered temporary, and plans to produce them as emergency measures under the wartime economic system. However, careful thought is now given to their production as a permanent means of attaining self-sufficiency in raw materials. Japan cannot assume that supply of materials for national defence from foreign countries will always be ensured in case of a prolonged war. To depend on foreign countries for a large part of raw materials for industries not only renders Japan's international trade balance unstable but also hampers the sound growth of the industries. In a country such as Japan, where economic expansion has been achieved with amazing rapidity, appropriate measures must be adopted to provide self-sufficiency in raw materials ; they must be realized as quickly as possible.

At present, importation of raw materials for industries constitutes 80 per cent of Japan's total imports. The value of the annual imports of raw cotton and wool, the chief raw materials for Japanese textile industries, has reached 1,200,000,000 yen, or 30 per cent of the value of total imports. Fortunately, the manufacture of staple fibre is now on a firm basis, as Japan's production is exceeded only by that of Germany. Yet, in spite of the Government policy

of encouraging the staple fibre industry, the output in Japan represents merely about 20 per cent of her total raw cotton and wool requirements.

In petroleum, which is one of the most important factors in national defence, domestic production is extremely limited. As a result, Japan imports more than 90 per cent of her total annual oil requirements and pays 200,000,000 yen each year for this purpose. Hence, the Government has attempted to solve the question of liquid fuels by the supply of artificial petroleum to take the place of natural oil. As a concrete measure, the seven-year plan for the promotion of the artificial petroleum manufacturing industry has been established under the Artificial Petroleum Industry Law, under which governmental authorities are cooperating with civilian interests. By this plan, the Government seeks an annual domestic production of 2,000,000 litres of artificial petroleum by 1943. This amount will replace 45 per cent of the estimated annual requirements.

Other governmental studies in the discovery and use of substitute articles and industries for their manufacture concern synthetic rubber and synthetic resin. At a later date, concrete plans will be formulated to promote these and other manufacturing industries.

THE SITUATION IN CHINA

I

—ADVANCE OF THE IMPERIAL ARMY—

PRESS SECTION, WAR DEPARTMENT

Recent activities of the Japanese military forces in China have centred in the drive up the Yangtze River. This drive has been made possible by the brilliant cooperation of the three arms of the Japanese forces, land, sea and air. Anking, capital of Anhwei Province was captured on June 12th. The next immediate objective was the important Chinese military base at Hukow, standing at a point on the Yangtze, about 20 kilometres downstream from Kiukiang and about 120 kilometres from Hankow.

After the Japanese troops completed their withdrawal from the area flooded as the result of the destruction of the southern dikes of the Yellow River by Chinese troops, their operations upstream along the Yangtze became more active. The Japanese took Tsienshan on June 17th and Tikang, about 40 kilometres above Wuhu, on the following day.

Certain Japanese troops taking part in the drive left Anking on June 23rd and effected a landing on the southern bank of the river at Hsiangkow in the face of the enemy. The Hsiangkow district was cleared of Chinese troops who were pressed westward and routed.

In this engagement of June 24th, the enemy left 305 dead, 305 rifles, 13 light machine-guns and 3 heavy machine-guns. The Japanese took 126 Chinese soldiers prisoner, including a staff officer of the Chinese Navy. The Japanese casualties totalled 15 injured.

On June 26th, the Japanese occupied Matangchen, a strategically important town on the southern bank of the Yangtze, by dislodging the comparatively well-equipped Chinese troops from their positions on the southern bank of that River. Pengtseh was taken on June 29th and also Shihpoling south of it.

On June 30th, the Japanese crossed the stream to the west of Pengtseh. At noon, July 2nd, they broke through the enemy positions at a height near Liuszekiao (about 16 kilometres east of Hukow). Maintaining their drive, the Japanese broke through strong Chinese positions from Wutsun to Tsomapan (7 kilometres east of Hukow), the main defence line of Hukow, at 1 p.m., July 3rd. The Japanese occupied Hukow at 6 p. m., July 4th. The following morning, the Japanese forces made a triumphant entry into Hukow.

In the engagements from the Japanese landing on the bank east of Hsiangkow on June 24th to the occupation of Hukow on July 4th, the Chinese losses are estimated at 6,000, including 3,000 dead left on the field. The Japanese spoils of war included 100 horses, 20 guns, a large number of rifles and revolvers, two gunpowder magazines and 10 motorcars.

The Fowning Sector

The Japanese Garrison at Fowning left Fowning late in June and moved southward, when part of the remnants of Chinese troops attacked the rear of the Japanese column. The Japanese then turned back and started a clean-up campaign against the remnants of Chinese troops which were practically routed by the morning of July 15th.

Along the Yangtze River

While the Japanese forces were advancing on Tsienshan north of the Yangtze River and also on Hukow on the southern bank of the river, General Chiang Kai-shek apparently formulated a plan for encircling the Japanese troops from the Tapieh mountain range north of the Yangtze and also from the southern bank by concentrating about 15 divisions of troops near Tsienshan north of the Yangtze and about 12 divisions on the southern bank of the river. His plan was frustrated by timely counter-attacks launched by the Japanese forces.

Since then there has been no change in the situation. About 100 Chinese soldiers made three attacks on the Japanese positions at Maotsashan, about 8 kilometres east of Hukow on July 14th and 15th, but were repulsed by the Japanese on every occasion.

Reduction of Kiukiang

The Japanese military force which had been preparing a further drive upstream since its occupation of Hukow on July 4th resumed operations on July 23rd.

The Takahashi and Satoh detachments at 2:40 a.m., July 23rd crossed Poyang Lake and effected a landing near Kutang, southwest of Hukow in face of the enemy. Successfully battering Chinese positions in a mountainous region despite the intense heat, these detachments reached the line between Choukialing and Matsushan by noon, and about 4 p. m. advanced to the line connecting Tsinchuanshan, Tatingshan and Wuchangting.

On July 24th, the Japanese troops broke through the strong enemy positions between Kiaochuang and Tsaikiatang. By 8 a. m., the following day, they reduced the eastern half of a height 3 kilometres southwest of Kuakaoshan. At midnight, the Japanese vanguard entered Kiukiang, which was completely occupied by 7:30 a. m., July 26th, with all remnants of Chinese troops routed.

Kiukiang is an important port town on the Yangtze, being the northern terminus of the Nanchang-Chekiang Railway. As it is only 200 kilometres from Hankow by the overland route, Kiukiang forms an important military base for the defence of Hankow.

The Japanese operations along both banks of the Yangtze River are progressing favourably. The Japanese force south of the river conducted operations against the Chinese troops in the Lushan mountain range after taking Kiukiang on July 26th, while another Japanese force north of the river frustrated the Chinese attempts to recapture Taihu, occupied Susung in southwestern Anhwei Province and also Hwangwei in southeastern Hupeh

Province. The Japanese operations against the remnants of Chinese troops near Kashing in Chekiang Province are also making steady progress.

The Kiukiang Front

On July 26th when the Japanese troops took Kiukiang, part of the Japanese force attacked Hsuchuang west of Kiukiang in pursuit of the retreating enemy, while another part dislodged the enemy from Szetzeshan (Lion's Hill). Some eight Chinese divisions engaged the Japanese at Kiukiang, but left 3,700 dead, 3 ten-centimetre guns, 2 field-guns, 2 anti-aircraft guns, 6 mountain-guns, several machine-guns, and large supplies of arms and ammunition. The Japanese detachment operating in the Lushan mountain range south of Kiukiang reduced part of the enemy positions on July 29th, by defeating two Chinese divisions under General Wu Chi-wei.

The Taihu, Susung and Hangmei Fronts

The Japanese troops which occupied Tsienshan, an important town in southwestern Anhwei Province, started a drive on Taihu on July 25th. The Hasegawa and Nakano detachments occupied the line connecting Wukiafailu, Fenghsiangpu and Hwangnikang at 10 a.m. The enemy, covered by an artillery force which had taken up positions at Kwanyinsze and Takiaotao, offered stiff resistance.

The Sano detachment occupied Takiaotao at 7 p.m., July 26th, by crossing the Chang River, while the Hasegawa detachment at 5 p.m. took the enemy artillery positions at Kwanyinsze and within an hour reached the eastern bank of the Chang River, about 700 metres east of Taihu.

Japanese military air units effectively bombed the enemy positions at Taihu on July 26th in cooperation with the Japanese ground forces. After dislodging the Chinese troops from their positions in the mountainous region, the Ogata, Ejima and Fujimura detachments at 11:20 a.m., July 27th reduced Taihu, a strategically important town in southwestern Anhwei Province. The enemy which consisted of the Chinese 31st army under General Wei Hsueh-Sung fled toward Hwangmei in southeastern Hupeh Province. The Chinese troops attempted not only to check the Japanese western push at the height northwest of Liangtingho but to launch an attack on Taihu in an effort to recapture it. But their attempts were frustrated by Japanese counter-attacks. The Japanese force, on the evening of July 28th, reached the line extending west and east from Liushuho (about 8 kilometres north of Taihu) and on July 30th routed the Chinese troops driving them northward. Part of the Hasegawa detachment reached the line of Liangtingho on the evening of July 27th.

The Japanese right column, the Nakano detachment, dislodged the Chinese troops from the villages at the southern base of the Tapieh mountain range early on the morning of July 28th and occupied Mayinpu, about 16 kilometres south of Kiangtingho, by 9 o'clock.

The Hasegawa detachment which formed the left column reached the district near Junpingtan about the same time and on the evening of July 31st occupied Erhlangho. On August 1st, the Japanese troops broke

through the Chinese positions at Chiehling, the border village between Anhwei and Hupeh Provinces, and entered Hupeh.

The part of this detachment that had advanced along the Taihu-Susung road from Liangtingho, started a general attach on Susung on the afternoon of August 1st covered by artillery fire and reduced it at 6 p.m.

On August 2nd, Japanese troops started a converging movement on Hwangmei in southeastern Hupeh Province, operating from Chiehling and Susung. At 4 p. m., the same day, they succeeded in occupying Hwangmei, which is a strategically important town in southeastern Hupeh Province, being only 200 kilometres away from Hankow.

South of the Yellow River

The inundation of the Yellow River, caused by the breach of the southern dikes on the part of the Chinese troops in a desperate attempt to check the Japanese drive on Chengchow and also on Hankow, steadily abated during the month of June, although toward the end of the month the waters rose again. During July, the Japanese troops in the flooded area completed their withdrawal to other places.

Prior to the Japanese withdrawal, a small Chinese unit attacked the Japanese troops near Kanglu, about 8 kilometres west of Weitze on June 20th, but was easily repulsed, leaving many dead. Judging by the dead bodies and also statements given by Chinese soldiers who were taken prisoner, the enemy belonged to the Chinese 24th division of the Central Army.

The Japanese troops followed up their victory, by attacking the Chinese positions southwest of Weitze and dealing crushing blows to the Chinese 20th and 24th divisions.

The Shansi Front

The Chinese troops in southern Shansi Province became active with the arrival of fresh troops from Tungkwan. Especially active were the Chinese troops at Wensi, which attacked the Japanese positions frequently though without success. According to statements given by Chinese prisoners, the Chinese 14th division established headquarters west of Kianghsien in southwestern Shansi Province where the Chinese 83rd and 84th divisions were stationed.

About 3,000 Chinese soldiers armed with mountain-guns and trench-mortars attacked the Japanese positions at Hotsin in southwestern Shansi Province at midnight, July 22nd, but were repulsed with heavy losses by the following dawn. The enemy left 120 dead besides 15 soldiers who were taken prisoner. The Japanese casualties totalled 1 killed and several injured.

Part of the Japanese troops which advanced to Yangwu routed the Chinese at Yuanwu at 6 a. m., July 29th. The same evening, the Japanese concentrated at Hsiaochichen. In the engagement, the enemy left 200 dead, but no casualty was suffered by the Japanese.

The Chinese troops in southern Shansi Province were comparatively well-equipped, possessing tanks and 12-centimetre trench-mortars. Those

which had taken up positions along the Kwei River formed the mainstay of the Chinese force, consisting of about 10 divisions of the Central Army under General Wei Li-huang. They apparently planned to recapture Shansi Province, taking advantage of the battle of Hsuchow and its aftermath in which large Japanese forces were concentrated there. Consequently, the Chinese troops in southern Shansi Province launched a pitched battle against the Japanese instead of their past guerrilla warfare.

On July 6th, the Japanese troops started general attacks on these Chinese troops from Sinkiang to Kuwo in the west and at Tachiaochen in the east.

The following day, the Japanese broke through all enemy positions. On the afternoon of July 7th, part of the Japanese force entered Kianghsien. The following morning, the Japanese troops gave a running fight to the Chinese, and at 11 a.m., July 12th reached Wanchuan.

The Japanese force operating in the Kianghsien area pressed the enemy southward into a defile and reached Wanglingkwan on the evening of July 11th. The centre of the Japanese force advanced to the area north of Yuncheng on the evening of July 11th and launched an attack on the enemy round Yuncheng.

Prior to this, part of the Japanese garrison at Yuncheng had moved north toward Wensi and on the afternoon of July 5th defeated a Chinese detachment east of Wensi. It proceeded to cut off the retreat of the Chinese troops from Kuwo and Howmachen.

The Japanese detachment which was attacking the enemy positions near Siyangtsun (about 20 kilometres east of Yuanku) in southeastern Shansi Province in concert with the Japanese military operations in other parts of that province, succeeded in breaking through the enemy positions on July 11th and entered Puchang. The main body of the enemy which was composed of the Chinese 17th, 83rd and 116th divisions fled southward across the Yellow River, while part fled into the mountains in the north.

The Morimoto detachment which reached a point north of Yuncheng on July 11th, after defeating the enemy on the way from Kuwo to Yuncheng dispersed the Chinese troops which had been besieging Yuncheng and entered the town on the afternoon of July 12th. All Chinese troops in the Yuncheng district were routed westward by July 15th.

Part of the Yamazaki detachment which entered Wanchuan at 11 a.m., July 12th drove northwest and occupied Tunghuachen.

Part of the Japanese force reached Ishih on the evening of July 13th, while other Japanese detachments started a general attack on Anyi on July 13th.

Another Japanese detachment, which pursued the enemy from Kianghsien toward Yuanku, reached Wanglingkwan on the evening of July 11th and Wangmaochen at midnight, July 12th. Two days later, this Japanese detachment effected a junction with the Japanese troops which had been operating at Siyangtsun and Puchang. Wangmaochen is only 12 kilometres northwest of Yuanku on the Yellow River which forms the southwestern border of Shansi Province.

The Mongolian Front

Japanese forces started operations in June against the Chinese Communist

troops which had been infesting northern Shansi Province from early in that month and successfully concluded the campaign on June 29th. In 19 engagements, the Communist troops left 670 killed, 130 horses, 81 rifles, 7 light machine-guns and other arms. The Japanese casualties totalled 7 killed and 12 injured.

As the successful result of the Japanese clean-up campaign, a large number of Communist soldiers and bandits are now surrendering to the Japanese in Inner Mongolia. Some of those who have surrendered are given necessary guidance for following peaceful pursuits, while some are employed by the Federated Autonomous Government of Inner Mongolia as auxiliaries in combating the bandits.

So far, 4,000 Communist soldiers and bandits have surrendered, including those under General Yu Tzü-ho, while seven more applications, involving 2,000 soldiers, have been made to the Japanese authorities for surrender.

Activities of the Military Air Force

Chinese bombing squadrons have recently increased their activities. On July 24th and 25th, Chinese bombers raided Japanese positions in China six times, but no serious damage was sustained by the Japanese side. The Military Air Force is now standing by to crush the Chinese Air Force.

At 11 a.m., July 26th, four Japanese military planes encountered over a dozen Chinese planes of E 15 and 16 types west of Anking. In the ensuing battle, the Japanese succeeded in shooting down 9 Chinese planes over Lake Poyang.

THE SITUATION IN CHINA

II

— FORCES OF THE IMPERIAL NAVY IN ACTION —

PUBLICITY BUREAU, NAVY DEPARTMENT

Activities of the Naval Air Force

The Japanese Naval Air Force has been cooperating with the Japanese naval and military forces in their drive on Hankow along the Yangtze River and keeping up its attacks on the military establishments at Canton, Foochow and other important towns in South China and on the Canton-Hankow Railway.

An outline of the activities of the Japanese Naval Air Force in China from July 5th to August 8th is given below.

July 5th Naval air units, while cooperating with the naval and military forces in their drive up and along the Yangtze, bombed the Chinese positions at Taihu in southwestern Anhwei Province. Naval planes led by Lieutenant-Commander Sonokawa repeatedly attacked Taihu and destroyed the enemy headquarters there. Chinese troop concentrations at Taihu were also attacked. An air unit commanded by Lieutenant Murata blew up over a dozen junks, containing Chinese troops near Taihu, while another group led by Lieutenant Taoka attacked a Chinese troop concentration southeast of Taihu and inflicted heavy losses on it.

July 6th The Naval Air Force was active in Central and South China. Several units attacked the Chinese positions on both banks of the Yangtze, while another visited Kienow in Fukien Province and effectively bombed the airfield there. Still another detachment raided Foochow, capital of Fukien Province, bombing the barracks and wireless station.

July 7th Another raid was made on Foochow, where the garrison headquarters were bombed. Several points on the Canton-Hankow Railway were bombed together with the airfield at Samshui. A goods train was attacked and overturned south of Pakonghow on the Canton-Hankow Railway, while the station compounds at Yingtak were attacked. The airfield at Samshui was again raided and the hangars and runways there were destroyed.

July 8th Wusueh on the Yangtze River above Kiukiang was visited and the enemy positions and troop concentrations there were attacked.

Chinese planes made four raids on Anking, but no damage was sustained by the Japanese side. Three Chinese planes were shot down, including two which were brought down by Japanese naval pursuit planes.

The Canton-Hankow Railway was attacked near Yingtak, where the track was disrupted at four points. Several godowns in the station compounds were bombed. Over 100 junks near Yingtak were blown up.

July 9th A large naval air unit led by Lieutenant-Commander Tanamachi and Lieutenant Nakajima raided Nanchang, capital of Kiangsi Province, and bombed the old and new airfields. Unchallenged, the Japanese raiders bombed and burnt five blocks of buildings, including hangars and aeroplane shops.

A naval air unit commanded by Lieutenant Mihara visited Hengyang in southern Hunan Province despite the cloudy weather and bombed the airfield there, defying a heavy barrage of anti-aircraft guns. Four out of over a dozen planes on the ground were bombed and burnt, while two more were destroyed.

The Japanese naval air units operating along the Yangtze River visited Tienkiachen above Kiukiang and bombed the enemy positions there. Other enemy positions on both banks of the Yangtze were also attacked.

July 10th The airfield at Sinyang in Honan Province was attacked. Tienkiachen was again raided, where the enemy positions were bombed. Taking advantage of the improvement of the weather in South China, several naval planes attacked Bocca Tigris Fort on the Pearl River.

July 11th Naval planes visited Yuantan on the Canton-Hankow Railway, destroying the steel bridge nearby. Enemy positions near Yingtak were attacked and the railway bridge near Yingtak was destroyed. Sheklung Station on the Canton-Kowloon Railway was bombed and the steel bridge nearby was damaged. The Chinese positions at Tienkiachen and between Kiukiang and Hukow were attacked.

July 12th Hankow and Wuchang were visited by Japanese planes which bombed the enemy positions and barracks at Wuchang. The enemy anti-aircraft fire was very fierce, but all the Japanese planes returned to their base safely.

In addition to the raid on Hankow and Wuchang, Japanese naval planes visited Ichang, Yunghsiu and Yushan in Central China and bombed the airfields there. Not a single Chinese plane challenged the Japanese raiders who noticed only three real planes and some dummy ones on the ground.

Naval planes operating along the Yangtze bombed and silenced the enemy artillery positions at Szetzeshan (Lion's Hill), below Kiukiang in cooperation with the naval force on the Yangtze. Two Chinese warships were bombed and burnt near Tienkiachen above Kiukiang.

July 13th Two out of several Chinese heavy bombers which raided a point below Hukow were shot down by Japanese naval pursuit planes.

July 15th Nanchang was raided and 15 out of 22 Chinese planes in the airfield there were bombed and destroyed, while the hangars and shops were heavily damaged.

The Chinese artillery position at Szetzeshan (Lion's Hill) was completely silenced by Japanese naval planes.

July 16th A large number of Japanese naval planes flew to Hankow in formation and bombed the airfield. Two large-sized planes and one medium-sized plane on the ground were destroyed. In the ensuing air combat, the Japanese raiders succeeded in shooting down 2 bombers and 8 pursuit-planes, of which one is unconfirmed, out of 25 Chinese planes. All the Japanese planes returned to their base safely. Kishui in eastern Hupeh Province was also raided; the Chinese positions were bombed

heavily.

Changmutao Station on the Canton-Kowloon Railway was bombed and the track near there was disrupted at three points. Japanese naval planes raided Yingtak and Shakow on the Canton-Hankow Railway and destroyed the railway tracks and station buildings.

July 17th Nanchang, capital of Kiangsi Province, was raided again and 7 Chinese planes in the airfield there were bombed and destroyed, while the hangars were also damaged, including one which was burnt.

Naval planes operating along the Yangtze heavily bombed the Chinese positions on both banks of the river below Kiukiang, including those at Taohuashan and Sinkang.

Canton was visited. Wongsha Station, terminus of the Canton-Hankow Railway, was bombed with the result that six buildings in the station compounds were destroyed and the track was disrupted at four points near the station. Chinese military works and munition factories round Canton were also bombed and damaged, while the military arsenal at Pakonghow on the Canton-Hankow Railway was bombed and burnt.

July 18th A large Japanese naval air force led by Lieutenant-Commander Matsumoto and Lieutenant Nango bombed the airfields at Nanchang.

When the Japanese planes appeared over the new airfield at Nanchang, they found that about 15 Chinese planes were taking the air to escape. Pursuit-planes commanded by Lieutenant Nango gave chase to and shot down 8 of them. Japanese bombers, led by Lieutenant-Commander Matsumoto, bombed and burnt 7 out of 12 Chinese planes which failed to leave the field. Finding that all the ammunition of their machine-guns were exhausted, several Japanese bombers made a daring landing on the Chinese airfield and set fire to the Chinese planes which had hitherto escaped.

Another naval air unit led by Lieutenant Watanabe attacked the old airfield at Nanchang, but found no enemy planes. There were several dummy planes on the ground. This unit returned to its base after heavily bombing and destroying various installations in the airfield.

In the unprecedented air combat over Nanchang, Lieutenant Nango, commander of the Japanese pursuit plane unit, shot down one of the 15 Chinese planes which was taking off. Lieutenant Nango was turning upon another Chinese plane, when the first plane shot down by him crashed, taking an unexpected course, and struck the left wing of his plane. Lieutenant Nango's plane broke up and he crashed to death with his machine.

Naval planes operating along the Yangtze kept up their bombing of the Chinese positions on both banks of the river, including those at Szetzeshan and Sinkang.

Naval planes visited Pakonghow on the Canton-Hankow Railway and bombed the munition factories there and also raided the Canton-Kowloon Railway and destroyed the track near Shatsun.

July 19th Hankow was raided again. Defying a fierce barrage from anti-aircraft guns, the Japanese raiders flew low over the airfield at Hankow and machine-gunned over 20 Chinese planes on the ground, including some dummies and burned 5 bombers of the SB type, one Northrop and one Douglas plane. Ten other planes, including bombers of SB type and Northrops were also damaged. Another Chinese bomber of the SB type was

shot down when it was taking the air.

Wuchang and Shechan were attacked and the military barracks and machine-gun emplacements there were bombed. Two Chinese military transports were bombed and sunk and two more were damaged and sent adrift near Yenchi above Hwangshihchi. Chinese positions on both banks of the Yangtze near Kiukiang, including Paishihchi, Lankiangchi, Sinkang, Szetzeshan and Hsiachukiao were bombed.

In South China, Pakonghow on the Canton-Hankow Railway was visited; its military arsenal and godowns were bombed.

July 20th At Yochow on the northeastern shore of Lake Tungting two Chinese warships and one transport were bombed and sunk, and four more warships were heavily damaged. Several lighters were also sunk.

In South China, the military arsenal and godowns at Pakonghow on the Canton-Hankow Railway were bombed and destroyed. Lohchong Station was visited and two engine-sheds together with four godowns were bombed and burnt. The Canton-Kowloon railway was disrupted at Sheklung.

July 21st Naval planes flew over Sinyang on the Peking-Hankow Railway. The station compounds were bombed and burnt. One goods train was also destroyed.

Naval planes operating along the Yangtze River bombed the Chinese positions on both banks of the river, including Sinkang, Paishihchi and Szetzeshan. One Chinese transport was bombed and stranded near Weiyuankow, while over twenty military junks were bombed and sunk. The military works near Weiyuankow were also bombed and destroyed.

July 22nd Naval air units visited Hankow, Siaokan, Kingmen, Ichang and Changsha in Central China and bombed the airfields there. Two medium-sized planes and one large-sized plane were bombed and destroyed. There were many dummy planes in the airfields, but not a single Chinese plane challenged the Japanese raiders. Two Chinese planes took the air at Ichang, but fled away.

The Canton-Hankow Railway and the Canton-Kowloon Railways were disrupted at Sinkai and Sheklung respectively.

July 23rd Changsha, capital of Hunan Province, was visited and the airfield there was bombed. Four medium-sized planes on the ground were destroyed.

Attacks on the Chinese positions on the Yangtze River were resumed, including those near and below Kiukiang. Canton was visited again and the military works and munition factories in and round the city were bombed, including those at Tsengpu. The Canton-Hankow Railway was attacked near Saitsun and Shakow where three steel bridges were destroyed, while a goods train was bombed and damaged.

July 24th The Canton-Hankow Railway was attacked near Lienkonghow, Wongteh and Shakow and steel bridges and tracks were destroyed.

July 26th Attacks on the Chinese positions on both banks of the Yangtze River were kept up, including those near Kiukiang, Hsiaochikow, Tean, Shihlipu and Hwangshihkang. One Chinese gunboat was bombed and sunk at a point about 3 miles upstream from Hwangshihkang.

July 27th The Canton-Hankow Railway was attacked at Yochow and Sienning, where godowns, goods trains and tracks were bombed and destroy-

ed. The Nanchang and Chekiang Railway was attacked near Tean and Siushui, where remnants of Chinese troops were bombed or machine-gunned. Two Chinese heavy bombers were brought down by Japanese naval planes at a point southwest of Hankow and west of Wusueh.

July 28th Japanese naval planes operating along the Yangtze River continued their attacks on the Chinese military positions on both banks of the river, including those at Tienkiachen, Kichun and Susung. Several Chinese military junks also were bombed and sunk. Changshuchen west of Nanchang was visited where the airfield was bombed.

July 29th Tatung in Anhwei Province was visited and the base of operations for remnants of Chinese troops was bombed.

July 31st Three Chinese gunboats were bombed and stranded together with one small Chinese steamer above Kiukiang, while over a dozen Chinese military junks were also bombed and burnt.

August 1st Naval planes operating along the Yangtze River attacked the Chinese military positions on both banks of the river extended over a distance of 200 miles with Kiukiang as centre, including those at Kichun, Tienkiachen, Hwangshihkang, Hwangchow and Hsinchow. Three Chinese gunboats were bombed and sunk and three more destroyed. Three small gunboats also were sunk and five more damaged.

The Chinese troops destroyed the dikes of the Yangtze River at Kanhu, about 10 miles above Kiukiang in a desperate attempt to check the Japanese drive on Hankow.

August 2nd The Japanese Naval Air Force was active both in Central and South China. Sinyang and Kwangshui Stations on the Peking-Hankow Railway were visited and the godowns there were bombed and burnt. The Canton-Kowloon Railway was attacked at Changping, where godowns were destroyed. The Chinese military positions along the Yangtze River were bombed, while a large Chinese transport was sunk near Kichun.

August 3rd A large Japanese naval air unit flew to Hankow and attacked the airfield. In the ensuing air combat, the Japanese raiders succeeded in shooting down 32 out of over 50 Chinese planes including Gloster Gladiators, those of the E 15 and 16 types and Curtis-Hawks. Seven Chinese planes on the ground were also bombed and destroyed. Two Japanese planes were lost.

Sustained attacks were made on the Chinese military positions along the Yangtze River, including those at Wusueh, Twanfeng, Hwangshihkang and Tienkiachen.

One Chinese gunboat and another small gunboat were bombed and sunk between Wusueh and Twanfeng together with over a dozen junks which were loaded with munitions. A Chinese troop concentration near Pengtseh was attacked.

August 4th Nanchang was raided and the munition dumps and godowns in the railway compounds were bombed and destroyed. Over a dozen Chinese junks loaded to capacity with munitions were bombed and sunk near Kichun and Hwangshihkang.

August 5th Attacks on the Chinese positions along the Yangtze River were continued, including those at Hwangshihkang, Tienkiachen, Yangshanchi and Yangshan. One steamer, one large steamer-launch and a small

steamer, together with several junks were bombed and sunk near Hwangshihkang. The Canton-Kowloon and Canton-Hankow Railways were attacked at Shektan and Chuntien, Yinchanyao, and Yuantan respectively and the railway tracks and steel bridges at those places were bombed and destroyed.

August 6th Another big raid was made on Hankow. Bombing squadrons were led by Lieutenant-Commander Mano and pursuit plane units were led by Lieutenant Nakajima. The Japanese raiders bombed and burnt 8 out of over 20 Chinese heavy bombers of the SB type and destroyed 7 more. Eight godowns in the airfield were bombed and burnt together with munition dumps. Not a single Chinese plane challenged the Japanese raiders, while the Chinese anti-aircraft fire was remarkably slack. All the Japanese planes returned to their base in safety.

In South China, Lishui and Yushan were visited; the local airfields were attacked. Yinchanyao on the Canton-Hankow Railway was raided and the steel bridge nearby was bombed and destroyed.

Chinese military positions along the Yangtze River were attacked again, including those at Echeng, Hwangshihkang and Yangshanchi. Two 700-ton steamers and three 100 to 200 ton mine-layers were bombed and burnt near Hwangshihkang and Echeng.

August 7th Nanchang was raided again by naval planes under the command of Lieutenant Soyeda. The airfields and railway station were bombed and destroyed. Two big godowns near the station were damaged, while about 30 newly-built godowns were destroyed on the Kankiang River to the west of the station.

August 8th Chinese positions along the Yangtze River were attacked again, including those at Echeng, Lanchichen, Tienkiachen and between Wuhu and Anking. One 800-ton transport was bombed and burnt near Echeng, while one 1000-ton transport was bombed and stranded upstream from Lanchichen.

The headquarters of the gendarmerie, Provincial Government offices, Municipal Government offices and an electric power station at Canton were bombed and damaged.

The Drive on Hankow

The Japanese naval and military forces which left Anking, capital of Anhwei Province, about June 23rd succeeded in occupying Hukow, a strategically important point on the Yangtze on July 4th, successfully fighting against foul weather and swirling muddy water in the Yangtze, sweeping mine-fields and removing booms. Their successful drive upstream was the result of coordinated cooperation between the land, sea and air forces.

On June 13th, when Anking was occupied, part of the Japanese naval force immediately started a drive upstream to sweep mines and remove booms. The following day, it reached a point 15 miles above Anking, by repulsing the enemy air raids and silencing the enemy positions on both banks of the river. On June 29th, the Japanese naval force succeeded in breaking through the booms at Matangchen, which were claimed by the Chinese to be impregnable. The Japanese Navy thus succeeded in control-

ling the Yangtze between Matangchen and Shanghai, a distance of about 440 miles. From Anking to Matangchen, 250 mines were discovered and disposed of. On July 10th, a Chinese torpedo-boat was shelled and sunk in Poyang Lake by a Japanese gunboat. The Japanese drive upstream from July 15th to August 4th is described below.

July 15th The Chinese gunboat Pingming, about 200 tons, was bombed and sunk at a point upstream from Kichun and Tienkiachen by a Japanese naval plane. Japanese warships and naval planes attacked remnants of Chinese troops in the mountainous region northeast of Hsiangkowchen.

July 16th Naval planes bombed and sunk two 200-ton Chinese transports between Kichun and Wusueh together with several junks.

July 17th One 200-ton Chinese transport was bombed and sunk near Wuchengchen on Poyang Lake, while a 50-ton military tugboat was also bombed and damaged.

July 19th Japanese warships effectively bombarded the Chinese positions near Szetzeshan (Lion's Hill).

July 20th Warships heavily bombarded the Chinese positions on both banks of the Yangtze River near Hukow in cooperation with the Naval Air Force.

July 23rd A joint drive on Kiukiang was started by the Japanese naval and military forces, which had been making preparations since July 4th when they reduced Hukow. Part of the naval force successfully covered the landing of military units on the shore of Poyang Lake. Another part of the naval force shelled the enemy artillery positions on both banks of the Yangtze near Kiukiang and silenced them. By breaking through the mine-fields successfully, the Japanese warships reached within striking distance of Kiukiang on the evening of July 24th.

July 25th In the morning when it was observed that the Chinese troops at Kiukiang showed signs of wavering, the commander of the Japanese naval force ordered the Japanese warships to enter Kiukiang. By defying the fierce artillery fire from the Chinese positions on both banks of the Yangtze, by machine-gunning Chinese troops on the banks and breaking through the mine-fields, the leading warship of the Japanese naval force entered Kiukiang at one o'clock in the afternoon, followed by other vessels which all entered Kiukiang by 3 p.m. Kiukiang, strategically the most important point between Nanking and Hankow, fell into Japanese hands.

Meanwhile, the vanguard of the Japanese naval force reached a point about 3 miles above the city where it cut off the retreat of the Chinese troops from Kiukiang. A special naval landing party also landed at a point above Kiukiang. The Naval Air Force fully cooperated with the naval and military forces in their drive on Kiukiang, by bombing the Chinese artillery positions on both banks of the Yangtze and efficiently covering the landing of the military force on the shore of Poyang Lake.

July 26th By 8:30 a.m., Kiukiang was completely occupied by the Japanese forces. The landing party occupied the area from the old British concession to the West airfield, while the military force held the other parts of the city.

July 29th Japanese warships attacked a large-sized junk loaded with mines and sunk it at a point above Kiukiang.

August 1st Chinese troops breached the dikes of the Yangtze River at two spots in a desperate attempt to check the Japanese advance. The breach caused at Kanhu between Kiukiang and Hsukiawan was about 5 metres wide, while the breach near Hsukiawan was over 100 metres wide. The alarmed local Chinese people immediately started repair works.

August 4th The Japanese naval force bombarded the Chinese positions and troop concentrations on both banks of the Yangtze River above Anking. Three Chinese heavy bombers raided Hukow, but fled before a barrage of anti-aircraft batteries from the Japanese warships.

LAWS AND ORDINANCES RECENTLY PROMULGATED

PRIME MINISTER'S CABINET

Organization of the Parliamentary Institutions Investigation Commission

(Imperial Ordinance No. 411, Promulgated on June 10, 1938)

Hitherto, three separate investigation commissions have studied the reform of the structure of the House of Representatives and the House of Peers as well as the amendment of the electoral system of the former House. As the matters for the deliberations of each of these Commissions are closely related, the new Ordinance creates a single Commission unifying and superseding the former groups. In its organization, the new Commission is to be presided over by an influential person outside the Cabinet instead of by the Prime Minister. Members are to be appointed from among officials of governmental institutions concerned, members of both Houses of the Diet, and individuals with technical knowledge and experience.

Organization of the Commission on Unemployment

(Imperial Ordinance No. 507 of July 16, 1938)

In view of the danger of unemployment that may arise in connection with the China Affair, this Commission has been created to cope with the new situation. It is divided into two sections, the Central and the Prefectural Unemployment Commissions. The former is presided over by the Minister of Welfare with a membership of not more than forty while the latter is to be created in such of the prefectures as the Welfare Minister may designate. These will be headed by the prefectural governors with not more than thirty members each.

Parcel Post Agreement between Japan and the United States of America

(Treaty No. 3 of June 27, 1938)

This Treaty was concluded with the object of improving the parcel post service between the United States and this country. It contains various provisions regarding exchange, relay and forwarding of parcels, wrapping, undelivered parcels, parcels with their value indicated, claims for damage, etc.

This Agreement came into effect on July 1, 1938 and is to remain in force until a period of six months have elapsed after the Postal Authorities of either of the signatory countries have expressed their intention to terminate the same.